

1. (Amended) An IC socket comprising:

a multitude of elastic contact pins separately constructed with one another and arranged to form an array;

a socket body [by] through which respective lower end sections of said contact pins are inserted to be movably supported thereby;

a floating member which is vertically movably held above said socket body and by which respective upper end sections of said contact pins are movably supported; and

a cover member constructed to be fitted to said floating member so as to press said floating member toward said socket body, wherein the upper end section and the lower end section of each of said contact pins are aligned to one another with intervention of an arc-shaped middle section, with an upper corner and a lower corner being formed where the upper end section and the lower end section meet the middle section, respectively, so as to limit movement of the upper end section and the lower end section with respect to said socket body and said floating member, respectively;

wherein said socket body is adapted to be fixed to a printed circuit board by fixing means so that the lower end

sections of said contact pins abut on respective mate electrodes on the printed circuit board;

wherein said [socket] floating member is provided with:

64 amp a multitude of guide means for regulating the amount of projection of the upper end sections of said contact pins from said floating member in cooperation with the upper corners of said contact pins; and

a container section adapted for containing an IC package [to] by bringing a multitude of terminals of the IC package into contact with the upper end sections of said multitude of contact pins, respectively, and

wherein where said cover member is fitted to said floating member and pressed down upon the IC package being put in said container section, contact at predetermined pressure is obtained between the lower end sections of said contact pins and said mate electrodes of [a] the printed circuit board and between the upper end sections of said contact pins and the terminals of the IC package, respectively.

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4. (Amended) An IC socket according to claim[s] 1 [or 2], wherein said container section forms [an aperture] a recess in said floating member, and said cover member has a first surface to

be contacted with a top surface of said floating member and a second surface to be contacted with an upper surface of the IC package which is contained in said container section, said IC socket being constructed such that said second surface is brought into contact with the upper surface of the IC package contained in said container section before said first surface is brought into contact with said top surface of said floating member in a process of said cover member being fitted in place.

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~~5.~~ (Amended) An IC socket according to claim[s] 1 [or 2], wherein the terminals of the IC package are constructed to be solder balls, and said guide means of said floating member are arranged such that the upper end sections of said contact pins are directed toward respective centers of the solder balls.

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~~6.~~ (Amended) An IC socket according to claim[s] 1 [or 2], wherein the tip of the upper end section of each contact pin has at least one face which is inclined in reference to a longitudinal direction of said contact pin.

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~~8.~~ (Amended) An IC socket according to claim[s] 1 [or 2], wherein each of said contact pins has a step portion which is

formed at a position lower than the tip of the upper end section of said contact pin by a predetermined distance.

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(Amended) An IC socket according to claim[s] 1 [or 2], wherein each of said guide means of said floating member forms a guide hole which is slightly tapered from a lower border to an upper border thereof.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment, independent claim 1 and claims 4-6 and 8-10 depending therefrom will be pending in this case. Claims 2, 3 and 7 have been canceled.

Applicant has rewritten the Abstract incorporating reference numerals where appropriate, as well as the recommended language suggested by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract is now respectfully requested.

Applicant is not entitled to Section 119 priority.

Applicant's claim for priority was submitted in error. A